

COUNTRY Eastern Germany

REPORT

TOPIC Military Information from the Finsterwalde Training Area

EVALUATION [] 25X1 PLACE OBTAINED [] 25X1

DATE OF CONTENT [] 25X1

DATE OBTAINED [] DATE PREPARED 11 September 1952

REFERENCES [] 25X1

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE) 25X1

REMARKS

1. [] vehicle convoys left the wooded area around Oppelrhain toward Bad Lieberwerda to the west on 5 August. On 5 August, [] did not observe any Soviet troop units at Bad Lieberwerda, Prestewitz, Wahrenbrueck, Rothenstein, Domsdorf, Schoenborn, Dobrilugk, Troebitz, Wildgrube, Uebigau and Falkenberg. [] motorized units were stationed in the Dobrilugk forest during the period from 2 to 4 August. These units left in the direction of Falkenberg via Uebigau during the night of 5 August. [] only secondary roads and field paths were used for these movements. *
2. On 2 August, [] observed a restricted area guarded by sentries east of the Lichholz-Muenchhausen road, north of the Lichholz-Finsterwalde road and south of the Kirchhain-Finsterwalde railroad line. Thirty-two telephone lines went to this area from the southeast. Trucks [] were identified in the restricted area there, [] a cantonment was located. The soldiers observed there wore black epaulets. ** The remains of camp fires in the wooded area around Hennersdorf indicated that tent camps had been there. Six newly constructed but unoccupied AAA emplacements were seen along the Finsterwalde-Kirchhain railroad line. According to local residents, an AAA exercise had been held in this area. The bulk of the troops involved left during the night of 6 August. Sign boards enlettered *Y80PHO 8* were seen on the roads.

3. []

4. On 12 and 13 August, [] Soviet troop units marching from Buergerheide (heath) toward Dobrilugk. The exercise which was held in this area had terminated. **

* Comment. The troops observed leaving the area of Finsterwalde toward the west on 5 August were probably going to the Torgau-Bilenburg-Mockrehna entraining area from where 17 troop trains

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- 2 -



left during the period from 7 to 9 August. Mostly units of the Eighth Gds Army returned to Thuringia were involved in these movements. [redacted]. This information indicates that the training area was vacated by the troops participating in these maneuvers by 9 August.

** [redacted] Comment. The restricted area west of Finsterwalde, which has previously been reported several times [redacted] is identical with the Buergerheide (heath) mentioned by [redacted]

On 8 August, the headquarters charged with the organization of the field exercises held in this area was still located there. Its signal units did not leave prior to 12-13 August.

*** [redacted] Comment. [redacted] the 306th Gds AAA Rgt of the 2d Gds AAA Div whose participation in the exercises reported is confirmed. [redacted]

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